GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2288
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005
INDO- ROMANIA COOPERATION IN OIL AND GAS SECTOR
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India and Romania has decided to further enhance cooperation in the oil and natural gas sector; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposals and projects identified for cooperation? ANSWER

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A delegation led by the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas had visited Romania between the 1st-4th July, 2005.

Discussions were held on the following specific areas for bilateral cooperation:

(i) Cooperation in the area of research and development;

(ii) Invitation to Romanian companies to invest in India`s new refinery projects and vice-versa;

(iii) Cooperation in third countries.

The following MOUs/Cooperation Agreements were signed during the Minister`s visit:-

(i) MOU between the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of Romania to establish the basis for a cooperative institutional relationship and encourage and promote bilateral cooperation on oil and natural gas development issues.

(ii) Cooperation Agreement between the Keshav Deo Malaviya Institute of Petroleum Exploration, ONGC, and Petroleum-Gas University (PGU) of Ploiesti, Romania, to undertake to identify problems related to upstream activities in Indian sedimentary basins and prepare time bound programmes for research and development leading to resolution of the problems.

(iii) Cooperation Agreement between the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun and PGU of Ploiesti, Romania, to identify, develop, promote and exchange of information in the areas of common interest in petroleum industry education and training.

(iv) MOU between Confederation of Indian Industry and Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Prahova, Romania, to encourage bilateral activities to facilitate Romania-India business partnership.

During the visit, there was a proposal from Romania to supply turbo jet fire fighting equipment. The proposal is being examined by ONGC.

Romania also offered cooperation in providing services in crisis management in oilfield operations. Oil India Limited (OIL) have requested the Romanian Government to intimate details of expertise in this regard available in Romania.

Further, GAIL (India) Limited are pursuing participation in Nabucco Natural Gas Pipeline Project.

Later, the Romanian Minister for Economy and Commerce, with senior officers and captains of the Romanian petroleum industry, visited India between the 22nd-24th October, 2005, to pursue the areas of bilateral cooperation that had emerged from Petroleum Minister`s visit earlier. During this visit, besides delegation-level talks, company-level discussions were also held.